

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 11, 2006

Contact: Andrew Geiger,
(406) 841-2772

HOUSING PARTNERSHIP PLANS STATEWIDE HOUSING CONFERENCE

Lt. Governor John Bohlinger Scheduled to Attend

The Montana Housing Partnership will hold its biennial conference September 18 - 20 at the Best Western KwaTaqNuk Resort in Polson. The conference, "Building Montana's Housing Future," kicks off with opening session presentations on September 19 by Jason Adams of the Salish Kootenai Housing Authority; MaryLou Affleck of the Fannie Mae Montana Community Business Center, Maria Valandra of First Interstate Bank, Michael O'Neil, Director of Montana Home Choice Coalition, A.W.A.R.E., and Julie Flynn, housing consultant from Helena.

Lieutenant Governor John Bohlinger is scheduled to address the conference during luncheon on September 19. "Of the many challenges facing us as we move forward towards a Montana true to our heritage, housing remains a cornerstone of our collective efforts," Governor Brian Schweitzer said. "My administration very much supports this effort and we look forward to hearing the good ideas coming from the local level."

The conference will offer a myriad of sessions, including: Native American Housing on Reservations; Housing and Methamphetamine Issues; Manufactured Housing: Foreclosure Prevention and Bankruptcy; Renovation, Repair and Rehab of Older Homes; and Building Better Rental Housing.

Principal conference sponsors include: The Montana Department of Commerce, FannieMae, First Interstate Bank, Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, and Sparrow Group.

To register on-line, visit www.housing.mt.gov. For more information, contact Susan Ballance at MHN at 1-800-318-0268 or sballance@nhsgf.org. You may also contact Jeannene Maas at MBOH at 1-800-761-6264 or jmaas@mt.gov.

-END-